

CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

MINUTES

JULY 18, 2011

Commission members: John P. Chiota, Esq. Chairman; William Holden, Vice Chairman; Gail J. Hanna, Secretary; James Cordone, Esq.; Russell Friedson; and Paul Timpanelli.

Also present: Robert Maslan, Esq.
Roy Fuchs, Trumbull PATCH
Vinti Singh, CT Post
Carl Massaro, Chairman, Town Council
Suzanne Testani, Vice Chairwoman, Town Council; Chairwoman, L&A
Robert J. Pescatore, Jr., Town Council
Mary Beth Thornton, Trumbull, CT
Scott Thornton, Trumbull, CT
Cindy Katske, Trumbull, CT

Called to Order: 7:05pm.

J. Chiota discussed with C. Massaro the distribution of the Final Draft of the Charter to the Town Council on July 21, 2011.

The Commission reviewed the red-lined version of the Charter draft. The following changes were made:

CHAPTER IX. ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT PROCEDURE. Confirmed the date of election as November 8, 2011. New language in Section 7. If a majority of those voting shall vote in favor thereof, this Charter as revised shall become effective "30 days after the election".

MOTION made by W. Holden to add the following language to CHAPTER VII. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, Section 3.: "In section A. the statute cited should be "9-204 (b)" (not "9-204b"). Sec A should also include "Any political party may nominate five (5) candidates and each elector may vote for as many candidates as are to be elected." In Section B. "six (6) members" should be changed to "four (4) members." Seconded by J. Chiota.
Vote: 4-2.

CHAPTER II. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH, Section 2. Composition and Election: put red-lined language back in. Delete: "member of the Town Council shall be elected as provided in Chapter VIII, Section 3."

CHAPTER VIII. ELECTORAL PROCESS, Section 3. Delete red-lined Paragraph A.

CHAPTER VIII. ELECTORAL PROCESS, Section 4. Delete “except for members elected at large.”

CHAPTER VIII. ELECTORAL PROCESS. R. Friedson submitted new language for Section 9. Special Referendum Requirements. There was a lengthy discussion for the new language to be inserted in this chapter.

C. Massaro noted a change from “approved” to “adopted” and “approval” to “adoption”.

MOTION made by R. Friedson to replace the existing Special Referendum Requirements with the new proposal in CHAPTER IX. ELECTORAL PROCESS., Section 9, seconded by G.

Hanna.

Vote: 4-2.

The commission members review the “revised” cover letter prepared by J. Chiota to the Town Council (a copy of which is attached).

MOTION made by G. Hanna to insert new language in CHAPTER VII. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, Section 20. Civil Service Board, as follows: “All elected officials and appointed employees who are subject to compensation and benefits shall follow Civil Service Rules for the purposes of benefits only.”, seconded by R. Friedson.

Vote: carried unanimously.

MOTION made by W. Holden to insert new language in CHAPTER VIII. ELECTORAL PROCESS, Section 9.F.2. as follows: “ If the number of votes cast is at least five (5%) percent of the number of electors who voted in the previous municipal election, and the majority of votes cast are in favor of the referendum, the budget shall be deemed rejected and returned to the First Selectman.”, seconded by P. Timpanelli.

Vote: 5-1.

MOTION made by R. Friedson to accept the complete package of changes to the Charter, seconded by P. Timpanelli.

Vote: carried unanimously.

MOTION made by R. Friedson to accept the pagination and section reference to be allowed to be cleaned up by the Town Clerk, Council Clerk or Charter Counsel so long as the meaning and the intent of the provisions remain the same, seconded by G. Hanna.

Vote: carried unanimously.

Adjourned: 8:50pm

Respectfully submitted:

Marilou Mangiamele, Commission Clerk